

VOCABULARY- English 3, Semester 1, Unit 3

abolitionist	one who advocates and participates in the beliefs and efforts necessary to end slavery
abolitionist movement	a pre-Civil War movement that rallied around the goal of the immediate emancipation of African slaves
aesthetic	the presentation of a text as it impacts the reader's emotions; feelings about images, sounds, and ideas
allegory	any type of literature in which characters, places, or plot events represent abstract ideas or qualities, or represent other people or events
allusion	a literary technique in which an author refers back to a famous literary work or historical event
analogy	a comparison between two or more items in a text or texts – such as theme, characters, or plot – to show the similarities between them
analyze	to carefully examine a literary work to better understand and appreciate the meaning of the text
antagonist	a character who creates problems for others and advances the conflict of the story
antonym	a word opposite in meaning to another
author's purpose	the reason why an author writes a work, such as to entertain, inform, persuade or explain
autobiography	a person's written account of his or her own life
bias	a preference that is usually a one-sided perspective or prejudice
character	the person or animal who plays a role in the plot of a literary work, who may either change or remain the same throughout a story
characterization	the techniques an author uses to describe what a particular character says, feels, thinks, or does
civil disobedience	the deliberate refusal to obey laws that contradict one's personal convictions

climax	a conflict or struggle that is the high point of interest or suspense in the plot
close reading	a detailed examination of a text
connotative meaning	the meanings and feelings we associate with a word, as opposed to the dictionary definition of that word
context	the setting that surrounds an event or idea; in vocabulary, the sentences surrounding a word
definition	the meaning(s) of a word
denotative meaning	the actual, dictionary definition of a word
direct address	in which an author writes in such a way that he or she seems to be talking to the reader directly
essay	a short nonfiction work about a particular subject
etymology	the origin and history of a word or phrase
explicit meaning	the meaning of a word fully revealed without any vagueness or ambiguity
extemporaneously	spoken without a specific script
figurative language	using non-literal words and phrases to draw attention to a thing's qualities, themes, or symbolic meaning
free verse	poetry that reproduces the rhythm of speech, not having a regular rhyme scheme or meter
Gothicism	a category of American Romanticism, including elements of mystery, horror, superstition, and revenge
iamb	a type of rhythmic pattern in a poem in which one unstressed syllable or beat is followed by a stressed syllable; e.g., <i>begin</i>
idealist	one who is guided by belief that the value of imagination and reason exceed practical knowledge and living with that influence
imagery	the descriptive or figurative language used to create word pictures that appeal to the reader's imagination
implied meaning	the meaning of a word understood, though unexpressed, usually through connotations and imagery
infer	to come to a conclusion through reasoning and deduction, rather than from reference to direct evidence

inference	a conclusion or opinion formed from known facts or evidence
informational text	nonfiction text that provides information about an event, person, or process
irony	the difference between what appears to be true and what is really true in a work of literature
literary interpretation	the meaning, supported by evidence, that a reader finds in text
lyceum	an organization that sponsors educational events; part of the Enlightenment movement's efforts to expand knowledge beyond the elite; widespread in eighteenth-century America
lyric poem	a poem that express the personal feelings or thoughts of a speaker
metaphor	a form of figurative language in which one thing is compared to another to draw out a certain quality, idea, or symbolic meaning
meter	the pattern of rhythm in a poem or verse
mood	the feeling that a work of literature creates, established by descriptive details
motif	an object, character, idea, theme, phrase, or action that occurs over and over in a work of literature
narrative arc	a type of writing that recounts important events in the order in which they happened
parallel plot	in which a story has two or more plot lines happening at the same time, linked by common themes or characters
patriot	one who is devoted to love for his or her country, who honors and supports that country's authority
personification	the giving of an animal, thing, or abstract idea characteristics of a human being
pivot point	the point in a story or novel where a character's fortunes change, for better or for worse; the turning point of the novel, from which point the story drives towards a conclusion
plot	the order of events in a literary work
poetry of reform and dissent	poetry written to communicate political themes, including political agitation, dissent, and protest, e.g., abolitionist John Greenleaf Whittier
point of view	the perspective from which the author tells a story to the reader

pronunciation	how to say a word
purpose	object, goal, or intention
Reform	a category of American Romanticism, through which reform writers supported the fight against slavery in America
rhetorical question	a question that is asked without the expectation of an answer, usually because the answer is assumed to be obvious
Romantic Movement	an artistic movement in Europe and America that emphasized individualism, feeling, emotion, and the power of nature
Romanticism	a literary movement focused on individualism, nature, emotion over logic, and the importance of freedom
serial	a story or novel told bit by bit in publications such as newspapers or magazines
setting	the time and place when the action in a work of literature takes place
simile	figurative language in which one thing is compared to another using a word such as "like" or "as"
slave narrative	a literary form in which slaves wrote true accounts about their experiences
style	an author's use of distinctive language and literary devices
symbol	a person, place, thing, or event that represents something else
symbolic	in which an object or character embodies a particular idea or theme
symbolism	the use of something, such as an object, name, or color that stands for another idea, quality, or thing
synecdoche	a figure of speech in which a part of something is used to represent the whole
synonym	a word having the same or nearly the same meaning as another
text structure	the way an author arranges the components of a literary work
theme	the important idea or ideas about life in a literary work, of which there can be several in a novel, story, play or poem
thesis	the main topic of an essay; a strongly written statement that supports the premise of an essay

tone	the writer's attitude as conveyed through word choice and style
Transcendentalism	a category of American Romanticism, the adherents of which believe in the potential of the individual and the presence of the divine in each person
transcendentalist	a follower of a nineteenth-century literary and philosophical movement that was a subcategory of American Romanticism, who believed in the unity between nature and God, finding truth in the natural world, and individualism
verbal irony	a contrast between what is said and what is meant
women's rights movement:	a nineteenth-century political movement in support of political rights, legal rights, and property rights for women